

COPY

P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, December 15, 1970

Wild Life & Fisheries Bldg.
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana



Helen R. Dietrich, Inc.
Stenotypists

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P R O C E E D I N G S

The Board Meeting of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 1970, at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. J. G. Jones, Chairman, presiding.

THERE WERE PRESENT:

MR. J. G. JONES, Chairman

MR. H. C. WRIGHT, Vice-Chairman

MR. C. A. GUIDRY

MR. CLARK M. HOFFPAUER

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.

MR. HOBSON NORRIS

MR. J. T. WALKER

MR. J. L. WINFREE

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A G E N D A

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held November 17, 1970.

MR. RICHARD K. YANCEY:

2. Consider amendment to Bayou D'Arbonne

resolution adopted at October meeting. (4)

MR. JOE L. HERRING:

- ✓ 3. Request for 5-day extension of deer season in West Feliciana Parish. (11)
- ✓ 4. Request by Assumption Parish Police Jury to open Lake Verret to gill and trammel net fishing. (13)
- ✓ 5. Request for right-of-way gas pipeline through Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. (17)
- ✓ 6. Request for extension of doe season in portion of Point Coupee Parish on lands owned by Mr. Ray Forrest. (21)

OTHER BUSINESS.

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THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting will come to order.

The first item of business is the approval of the minutes of the meeting of November 17, 1970.

What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I move that they be



approved as amended.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright that the minutes of November 17 be approved as amended. Is there a second?

MR. WINFREE: What was the amendment?

THE CHAIRMAN: In the discussion pertaining to the amount of shell that was dredged, instead of cubic yards they had dollars on the figure.

MR. WINFREE: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Winfree. Is there any further discussion?

(No response)

Is there any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, at the October meeting the Commission adopted a resolution recommending that the U. S. Corps of Engineers purchase several thousand acres of land in the Bayou D'Arbonne

area northwest of Monroe, to be established either as a game management area or a national wildlife refuge by the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Following the adoption of that resolution, as a result of Senator Ellender's rather fast and effective action, the omnibus bill pertaining to rivers and harbors that was pending in the Senate Public Works Committee in Congress was amended to cover authorization for the purchase of these lands, and this was recommended by General Clark with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. However, it has developed and it was called to our attention by the Department of Public Works that the land description that we had in our resolution was not entirely accurate.

In order that our position will track that proposed by General Clark, we would suggest that the resolution adopted by the Commission at the October meeting be amended to exclude the description that we had in that resolution and that we simply say that we recommend that the



Corps purchase 14,700 acres of land in the Bayou D'Arbonne bottom northwest of Monroe for wildlife management area purposes. This resolution then would supersede that adopted at the October meeting which would basically eliminate the land description that we had in that resolution.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WALKER: I have one question. Who is going to manage this area?

MR. YANCEY: This would be determined later. If the Corps would choose that it be managed as a wildlife management area, then it would be handled by the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission just as we handle the Bodcau Wildlife Management Area up near Minden. However, if it is chosen that this be managed as a national wildlife refuge, then it would be operated by the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Since the adoption of the Commission's resolution at the October meeting, the subject has been rather widely discussed in the Monroe



area and it seems to have general acceptance up there. The Monroe paper has come out with a very fine editorial recommending that this action be taken. They feel that it would be a very fine thing for the Monroe area, if this area can be purchased and set aside as a game management area or a national wildlife refuge. However, this is yet to be determined.

MR. WALKER: Part of this acreage is supposed to be set aside for waterfowl habitat?

MR. YANCEY: Yes.

MR. WALKER: I am just trying to find out.

MR. YANCEY: Right. These low-lying areas along Bayou D'Arbonne are going to be flooded when they complete the lock and dam at Columbia. In addition to creating a nine-foot navigational channel along the Ouachita River, it is going to flood out these low-lying lands, hardwood lands, along the Bayou. This is going to create several thousand acres of waterfowl habitat.

MR. NORRIS: Mr. Yancey, the way I understand it, even though it is made a refuge for migratory birds, 40 percent of it could be set aside for public hunting. Is that correct?

MR. YANCEY: Under the national wildlife refuge system, 40 percent of it can be opened for public hunting of waterfowl. All of it can actually be hunted for resident game, and it can all be used for sport and even commercial fishing purposes. Of course, everyone knows how our game management areas are operated. The entire area would be open for public hunting and fishing if we would operate it. Either way, it would be a real fine project for the state.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion?

(No response)

What is your pleasure?

MR. NORRIS: Mr. Chairman, I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Norris.

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any further discussion?



(No response)

Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The text of the resolution is here made part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the U. S. Corps of Engineers is presently constructing a nine-foot navigational channel on the Ouachita and Black Rivers through the installation of certain locks and dams, and

WHEREAS, the increased water levels resulting from this project will flood certain low-lying areas along the Ouachita River and its tributaries, and.

WHEREAS, several thousand acres of land will be affected along D'Arbonne Bayou northwest of Monroe between Lake D'Arbonne and the



Ouachita River, and

WHEREAS, the tract of land affected by the increased water levels could serve as a basis for creating an excellent wildlife management area or refuge, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby request that the Corps of Engineers recommend to Congress that 14,700 acres of land along Bayou D'Arbonne, northwest of Monroe, be purchased and dedicated for wildlife management purposes to be operated through this Commission as a Wildlife Management Area or through the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife as a National Wildlife Refuge, much of which would be open to public hunting, fishing and other forms of outdoor recreation, and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that
this action supersedes the resolution
pertaining to Bayou D'Arbonne adopted
by this Commission on October 27, 1970.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The first item we have on the agenda is
a request for an extension of the deer season in
West Feliciana Parish. The present season as set
would open on December 26 and continue through
January 3, 1971. This request is in Area 12,
we might say, of our map, and it is a request to
extend the season to January 10, with or without
dogs and for bucks only.

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright. Is
there a second?

MR. WINFREE: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Winfree.
Is there any further discussion?

(No response)

Any objection?



(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The text of the resolution is here made part of the record.)

WHEREAS, a delegation of deer club operators met with the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, this group stated that the parish was controlled by clubs and the public excluded, and

WHEREAS, this area on the state regulations is known as Area 12 to close on January 3, 1971, and

WHEREAS, this group has requested an extension of seven days,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Area 12, West Feliciana Parish, be granted an extension of the deer season to January 10, 1971.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. 4.

MR. WINFREE: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.



THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Winfree.

MR. WINFREE: We told those people that we would extend that through January 10, Mr. Herring, rather than to January 10, but they indicated late yesterday afternoon that they do not hunt on Sunday, anyway, but just for the benefit of our people, our agents that may be there, they are entitled to hunt through the 10th.

MR. HERRING: Actually what it is, it is the end of the normal deer season on the 10th, so that's it, anyhow.

Mr. Chairman, the next item on the agenda is a request from the Assumption Parish Police Jury to open Lake Verret for commercial fishing. The request is to open on January 1 and continue through March 31, 1971. This has been done in years past and it makes very good sport fishing there by removing the rough and commercial fish.

We would recommend that we continue this and go along with it this year; that a permit be



required by each fisherman; that the area be open to all fishermen with legal commercial fishing licenses; that it be open to all legal nets; that fishing be during daylight hours only; that the weekly report that we have had in the past be submitted so that we will know what has been taken off the area.

Now the first day, to get permits, we will issue them at the courthouse in Assumption Parish for the convenience of the commercial fishermen. That will be on December 29. Our man will be there to issue permits. After that day then the permits will be issued out of the District VIII office here in New Orleans.

I recommend that we go ahead and open this lake for commercial fishing.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any further discussion? What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. NORRIS: Second.



THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Norris.
Is there any further discussion?

(No response)

Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The text of the resolution is here made part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Assumption Parish Police Jury has requested that Lake Verret be open for commercial fishing from January 1, 1971 through March 31, 1971, and

WHEREAS, the removal of rough fish from Lake Verret will greatly assist the sportsmen while providing extra income for the commercial fishermen, and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that Lake Verret be opened for commercial fishing with the following stipulations:

1. A permit from the Louisiana



Wild Life and Fisheries

Commission be required by
each fisherman.

2. Lake Verret be opened to
all fishermen with legal
commercial fishing license.
3. Open only to all legal nets.
4. Fishing during daylight
hours only.
5. Fishermen remove all legal
commercial fish and all
rough and trash fish that
are caught.
6. Weekly reports of catch
from each fisherman be
turned in to the District
VIII office, Louisiana
Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission, each week.
Failure to submit weekly
reports automatically
revokes permit for next



year, and

WHEREAS, permits can be received from the District VIII office, Fish and Game Division in New Orleans, except on December 29, 1970 permits will be issued in the Assumption Parish Court House,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Lake Verret, Assumption Parish, be opened to commercial fishing with all the above stipulations.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. 5.

MR. HERRING: The next item we have on the agenda is a request from the Navarro Gas Company of Sterlington, Louisiana. They are requesting a 25-foot right-of-way across a portion of our Russell-Sage Wildlife Management Area.

This will be a six-inch gas line and it will go on parts of Section 14, then north and northeast of the existing Humble Gas Transmission Company right-of-way in Sections, 26, 25 and 36, Township 18 North, Range 5 East. As



passed at previous Commission meetings, the price of this will be \$10.00 per rod. It figures out approximately 794 rods that they will be crossing our property, for a total cost of \$7,940.00 plus timber damages that Navarro Gas Company will be paying to us.

Our recommendations are, too, that the line will be buried a minimum of two feet under the ground; that Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission will have ingress and egress rights on all of the pipeline areas; that we will have permission to plant any portion for wildlife purposes and food that we wish to on this pipeline.

I do recommend at this time that we do go ahead and grant this right-of-way.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WALKER: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Walker. Is there a second?

MR. WINFREE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Winfree.



Is there any further discussion?

(No response)

Any objections?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The text of the resolution is here made part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Navarro Gas Company, Sterlington, Louisiana, has requested a 25-foot right-of-way for a six-inch line across a portion of our Russell-Sage Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, the western boundary of Section 14, then north and northeast of the existing Humble Gas Transmission Company right-of-way in Sections 26, 25, and 36; Township 18 North, Range 5 East; will be used for 25-foot right-of-way, and

WHEREAS, the total length of right-of-way will be approximately 794



rods at \$10.00 per rod or approximately \$7,940.00 plus timber and wildlife damage for crossing, and

WHEREAS, the following stipulations will be required:

1. Line will be buried a minimum of two feet.
2. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission can use any portion of this right-of-way for wildlife food plots.
3. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission can place roads over pipe lines and any expenses incurred by replacement or relocation of pipeline will be financed by Navarro Gas Company or its subsidiaries.
4. Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission will always have ingress and



egress rights of its
personnel or other
designated individuals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that
this 25-foot right-of-way be granted to
the Navarro Gas Company with the above
stipulations.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. 6.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the last
item on the agenda is a request from Mr. Ray
Forrest, a landowner who has approximately 6,000
acres in Pointe Coupee Parish. His request is
to extend the doe season that was originally
granted in his area, because they were unable
to harvest an adequate number of deer during the
first part of the deer season.

As you know, the weather conditions
were very bad for harvest for a lot of the farmers
in this particular area. They could not get in
and do some of the harvesting, so they did not
hunt on the area. They came to the Commission,
requesting that they have another four-day season



the first part of this second half, which would be December 26 to December 29, and this would be in the same portion of Point Coupee Parish as is described in our hunting and fishing brochure.

I would recommend to the Commission that we grant this four-day season extension to Mr. Forrest.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright.

Second?

MR. WINFREE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Winfree.

Is there any discussion?

(No response)

Any objection?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The text of the resolution is here made part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Mr. Ray Forrest



met with the Commission requesting a four-day extension of the any sex deer season on his farm, and

WHEREAS, due to weather conditions hindering farm crop harvest, this area was hunted very light during the granted any sex season during the first portion, and

WHEREAS, this land is described as:

Point Coupee Parish: Township 4
South, Range 8 East, Sections
53, 52, 51, 50, 49, 48, 47,
46, 45, 44, 43, 78, 79 and 82;
Township 4 South, Range 9 East,
Sections 35 and 43,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that a four-day any sex season be granted on the above described property from December 26 through December 29, 1970.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.



Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Commission, there were two articles that came up after the executive session yesterday afternoon.

One item was that I forgot to mention to you gentlemen that we did not receive any bids on the Rockefeller tract that was recently advertised by the Mineral Board.

The second item was a letter that came into my office this morning from Hackett & Bailey in Lake Charles, who are the architectural firm for the construction of our headquarters building at Point au Chien. In this letter they recommend that we extend the completion date on our headquarters building at Point au Chien to Terrebonne Lumber Company for a period of 90 days so that this gentleman can finish the building. He has virtually completed the building now. We do have to run a water line over to it and until we get the water in there, we can't check all of our plumbing system out.



Also there was a small utility building built in the backyard and he needs a few days to put the roof on it.

I would like to request that you approve a 90-day extension on this contract so that the contractor can complete the work.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. WINFREE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Winfree. Is there any other discussion?

MR. WALKER: Mr. Ensminger, you recommend that?

MR. ENSMINGER: Yes, sir. There is no penalty clause in this contract, so actually we are not doing anything but just legalizing the man to continue work until he completes the project.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any objection?



(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yesterday we completed reviewing the budget for 1970-71 to be submitted to the Division of Administration. We don't have the total figures -- I don't think Mr. Cook is here -- of what the proposed budget will consist of, but he should have those figures compiled in a few days and have the budget ready to submit.

Is there any other business to come before the Commission?

MR. WALKER: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

MR. WALKER: On behalf of the Catahoula Lake Conservation Club, and by unanimous passage of a resolution, they have asked me to express to this Commission their thanks for a wonderful first half duck season on Catahoula Lake. The dam proved to be successful. We did not have any lead poisoning per se. There may have been a few ducks that were taken that might have had lead poisoning during the split season, but I think this

was like 14 or 15 ducks. The latest count on birds on Catahoula Lake was Monday a week ago and it was an estimate of 360,000. We have the largest concentration of ducks on Catahoula Lake this year and it is the largest since 1956. We had the greatest hunter participation that I can remember in 25 years of hunting on Catahoula Lake. The Club wants to express their thanks to the Commission for their cooperation.

They have asked me also to express their special thanks to Mr. Joe Herring for his cooperation in the project up there.

May I ad lib a little bit? The spillway did wash out, and since it did wash out we had Mr. Bob Gray, a member of our club, volunteer to stand the whole expense of putting the spillway back in. Mr. Herring advised me yesterday it was completed, so the spillway is back in at the 28.5 level, which was more or less agreed upon by everyone as being the proper level of the spillway.

On behalf of Catahoula Lake Conservation Club, we say thank you.



THE CHAIRMAN: Any other business?

(No response)

Do I hear a motion we adjourn?

MR. WRIGHT: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright.

MR. WALKER: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

MR. WALKER: Let's set the meeting dates. We have been messed up -- well, not messed up, changed.

THE CHAIRMAN: The next meeting date I assume is the normal meeting date, which is the fourth Tuesday of the month. We changed the November and December meetings because of Thanksgiving and Christmas. The normal meeting date is the fourth Tuesday of the month.

MR. WALKER: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting is adjourned.

. . . . Thereupon, the
Board Meeting of the
Louisiana Wild Life and



Fisheries Commission was
adjourned at 10:27 o'clock
a.m. on Tuesday,
December 15, 1970.



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned, HELEN R. DIETRICH,
DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

That the above and foregoing (29 pages
of typewritten matter) is a true and correct
transcription of the stenographic (Stenotype)
notes and of the tape recording of the proceedings
had herein, made by me and transcribed under my
supervision, at the time and place hereinbefore
described, being proceedings of the Louisiana
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 14th day
of January, 1971.


Reporter.

